



## **COEUR D'ALENE TRIBE**

### **FUELS PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS FY 2004**

The fuels program had a very successful year in 2004. The new funding from the National Fire Plan initiated substantial work at several sites around the reservation. The work was accomplished as 40 different treatments using both contract crews and Tribal staff. A fuels crew of 4 was hired mid-season to supplement the fire crew in doing some of the hand work and burning. Contracts were let on thirty (30) projects to approximately twenty (20) different contractors with up to 8 contractors working simultaneously.

The fuels program also provided funding to the GIS shop to initiate the Wildland Fire identification Planning project.

Projects were initiated in several areas around the reservation. In Plummer we completed the first round of work around tribal housing and on the tribal allotments. In addition the south and west edges of Plummer were treated with a series of projects on Tribal and private lands. Approximately 181 acres have been treated in the Plummer area. The Sub-Agency and Agency Road also received substantial work in the FIREWISE program with approximately 120 acres treated.

In Worley we completed work around Tribal housing and are currently working on the Osprey 3 area with another contract. Several landowners in the Plummer-Worley area have also expressed interest in participating in the Tribal FIREWISE program either through contractors or self contract. In 2004 we treated approximately 214 acres in the Worley area including some areas that have been treated twice.

In Cave Bay we have continued the work that was initiated in 2003 by the Kootenai County FIRE SMART program and have over 80 landowners participating at the present time. In 2004 we have treated approximately 150 acres once and about half of them have been treated twice.

Along the State Line allotments north of Tilma, we have treated the majority of the lands along the State Line Road and have contracted or completed 360 acres of hazard fuel reduction projects.

We began burning in some of these units in late September and plan to continue as long as conditions are favorable.

Fuels also participated in the interagency project to develop the Benewah County Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) hazard assessment and the steering committee for the Kootenai County WUI Task Force.

Funding was also received in 2004 for a new BOBCAT T-300 with brushing heads to allow the Tribe to do some of the treatment and re-treatment with internal staff. The machine is expected to be delivered early in FY 2005.

